

Appl. No. 10/814,379
Amdt. Dated September 21, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 22, 2006

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (currently amended) A nursing apron for covering the chest area of a nursing mother to afford privacy to the mother while nursing an infant and for aiding in supporting the infant while it is nursing, comprising:

a generally trapezoidally shaped piece of washable material having a top end, a bottom end, and opposite side edges that taper inwardly from the bottom end toward the top end, and adapted to cover the chest area and breasts of a nursing mother, with the top end adapted to lie beneath the chin of the mother, the bottom end adapted to lie at about midsection of the mother, and the opposite side edges adapted to wrap partially around the sides of the mother; and

5 securing means on the bottom end for securing the bottom end about the midsection of the mother to form a support pouch for receiving and covering an infant and aiding in supporting the a nursing infant in position to be breastfed;

10 a neck strap on the top end adapted to extend around the neck of a person wearing the apron to support the apron and an infant held therein;

15 the opposite side edges of the apron positioned so that the head of a nursing infant can be seen past a respective side edge; and

privacy flaps on the opposite side edges of the apron for selectively covering or uncovering the head of an infant covered and supported by the apron.

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (original) A nursing apron as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

the securing means comprises an elongate strip of material attached to the bottom

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end of the apron, said strip of material having opposite ends extending beyond the side edges of the apron and adapted to wrap around the midsection of a person wearing the apron and be tied
5 in front or back of the person.

5. (currently amended) A nursing apron as claimed in claim 1 2, wherein:
the neck strap is adjustable; and
a neck pad is adjustably positioned on the neck strap to distribute the weight of an infant supported in the apron, increasing the comfort of use of the apron.

6. (cancelled)

7. (cancelled)

8. (cancelled)

9. (cancelled)

10. (cancelled)

11. (new) A nursing apron that covers an infant being breastfed to thereby afford privacy to a nursing mother, and provides at least partial support to the nursing infant, comprising:

a piece of washable fabric having a top end, a bottom end, and opposite side edges, and a
5 length from the top end to the bottom end adapted to extend from the neck of the user to about the waist, and a width at the top end slightly narrower than the shoulders of a nursing mother using the apron and a width at the bottom end adapted to wrap around the front and sides of the

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midsection of the nursing mother, whereby the apron covers the front of the upper body of the nursing mother;

10 an adjustable neck strap extending from the top end for wrapping around the neck of a nursing mother using the apron, and a neck pad slidably mounted on the neck strap to distribute the weight of an infant supported in the apron;

15 securing means attached to the bottom end of the apron to secure the bottom end snugly about the midsection of the nursing mother and form a pouch to receive and support an infant during breastfeeding; and

 a movable side flap on each side edge of the piece of fabric, said side flaps positionable to cover the head of a nursing infant supported in the pouch, or movable to partially expose the head of the infant while maintaining privacy to the mother.

12. (new) A nursing apron as claimed in claim 11, wherein:

 the piece of fabric is trapezoidal in shape, and the movable side flaps are attached to the opposite side edges between the top and bottom ends in the area of the breasts of a person wearing the apron.

13. (new) A nursing apron as claimed in claim 12, wherein:

 the neck strap is a closed loop that comprises an extension of bands of fabric stitched along the opposite side edges of the piece of fabric.

14. (new) A nursing apron as claimed in claim 13, wherein:

 the securing means comprises a band of fabric stitched to the bottom end of the apron and having a length such that its opposite ends can be wrapped snugly around the midsection of the mother and tied either in the back or the front to close the bottom end of the apron and enable it 5 to support an infant during nursing.

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Amendment to the specification:

Please amend line 28 in the paragraph beginning at line 25 and ending at line 28 on page 3 of the specification as shown on the following marked-up and clean copies:

Marked-Up Copy

Flaps **21** and **22** sewed to opposite side edges of the apron between the top and bottom ends thereof in areas corresponding generally to the locations of the breasts can be folded over the infant's head for privacy as shown in figure 4, or folded to an open position so that the mother can observe the infant's head as shown in figure figures 5.

Clean Copy

Flaps **21** and **22** sewed to opposite side edges of the apron between the top and bottom ends thereof in areas corresponding generally to the locations of the breasts can be folded over the infant's head for privacy as shown in figure 4, or folded to an open position so that the mother can observe the infant's head as shown in figure 5.